

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): An information reproduction device, ~~characterized in that it comprises~~ comprising:

a frequency difference detection means which detects a difference in frequencies between a read clock, obtained by applying phase locked loop (PLL) [[PLL]] to a reproduction signal read from a recording medium, and a reference clock;

an information processing means which performs signal processing on the reproduction signal and outputs a processing status information indicating whether or not the information processing is performed normally; and

a frequency monitoring means which monitors whether or not the frequency of the read clock is normal based on the frequency difference and the processing status information; the frequency monitoring means makes a transition to an OK status indicating that the frequency of the read clock is normal when the processing status information is indicating a normal status; and makes a transition to a NG status indicating that the frequency of the read clock is abnormal when the processing status information is indicating an abnormal status and the difference of the frequencies exceeds a first threshold; and returns to an OK status when the difference of the frequencies is below a second threshold during the NG status.

Claim 2 (Original): The information reproduction device according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ further comprising:

the frequency difference detection means outputs the difference between the number of pulses per a predetermined reference time period of the read clock and the reference clock as the frequency difference; and

the frequency monitoring means makes a transition to the NG status when a cumulative value of the difference of the number of pulses during a plurality of reference time periods exceeds a first threshold, and returns to the OK status when the difference of the number of pulses during a single reference time period is lower than a second threshold during the NG status.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): A read clock monitoring method, ~~characterized in that~~ it comprising:

a frequency difference detection step which detects a difference in frequencies between a read clock, obtained by applying phase locked loop (PLL) ~~[[PLL]]~~ to a reproduction signal read from a recording medium, and a reference clock;

an information processing step which performs signal processing on the reproduction signal and outputs a processing status information indicating whether or not the information processing is performed normally; ~~[[and]]~~

a frequency monitoring step which monitors whether or not the frequency of the read clock is normal based on the frequency difference and the processing status information; the frequency monitoring step makes a transition to an OK status indicating that the frequency of the read clock is normal when the processing status information is indicating a normal status; and makes a transition to a NG status indicating that the frequency of the read clock is abnormal when the processing status information is indicating an abnormal status and the difference of the frequencies exceeds a first threshold; and returns to an OK status when the difference of the frequencies is below a second threshold during the NG status.

Claim 4 (Original): The read clock monitoring method according to claim 3, ~~characterized in that~~ further comprising:

the frequency difference detection means outputs the difference between the number of pulses per a predetermined reference time period of the read clock and the reference clock as the frequency difference; and

the frequency monitoring means makes a transition to the NG status when a cumulative value of the difference of the number of pulses during a plurality of reference time periods exceeds a first threshold, and returns to the OK status when the difference of the number of pulses during a single reference time period is lower than a second threshold during the NG status.

Claim 5 (New): An information reproduction device, comprising:

a frequency difference detection device configured to which detect a difference in frequencies between a read clock, obtained by applying phase locked loop (PLL) to a reproduction signal read from a recording medium, and a reference clock;

an information processing device configured to perform signal processing on the reproduction signal and outputs a processing status information indicating whether or not the information processing is performed normally; and

a frequency monitoring device configured to monitor whether or not the frequency of the read clock is normal based on the frequency difference and the processing status information; the frequency monitoring means makes a transition to an OK status indicating that the frequency of the read clock is normal when the processing status information is indicating a normal status; and makes a transition to a NG status indicating that the frequency of the read clock is abnormal when the processing status information is indicating an abnormal status and the difference of the frequencies exceeds a first threshold; and returns to an OK status when the difference of the frequencies is below a second threshold during the NG status.

Claim 6 (New): The information reproduction device according to claim 5 further comprising:

the frequency difference detection device outputs the difference between the number of pulses per a predetermined reference time period of the read clock and the reference clock as the frequency difference; and

the frequency monitoring device makes a transition to the NG status when a cumulative value of the difference of the number of pulses during a plurality of reference time periods exceeds a first threshold, and returns to the OK status when the difference of the number of pulses during a single reference time period is lower than a second threshold during the NG status.